

Docket: 80040

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sumner et al.

Serial No.: 10/667,744

Group Art Unit:

Filed: September 22, 2003

Examiner:

For: PROCESS FOR THE OXIDATIVE PURIFICATION OF A CRUDE CARBOXYLIC ACID SLURRY

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(b)

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.56, the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant are being brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Copies of the cited documents are enclosed.

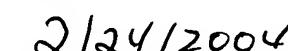
Applicants wish to make known to the Examiner the disclosed process was practiced more than one year before the filing date of the above application where the crude carboxylic acid slurry comprised terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid. In other words, the process was practiced where terephthalic acid or isophthalic acid in the crude carboxylic acid slurry was in an amount greater than 5%. However, applicants believe that the above events do not alter the patentability of the claimed invention which utilizes the process in the substantial absence of TPA and IPA.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application or date of entry into the national stage of an international application or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven A. Owen  
Registration No. 50,355



Date

Eastman Chemical Company  
P.O. Box 511  
Kingsport, Tennessee 37662  
Phone: (423) 229-5534  
FAX: (423) 229-1239

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper(s) referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Kristi D. Huff

2/24/04  
Date

Docket: 80040

FEB 26 2004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Sumner et al.

Serial No.: 10/667,744

Group Art Unit:

Filed: September 22, 2003

Examiner:

For: PROCESS FOR THE OXIDATIVE PURIFICATION OF A CRUDE  
CARBOXYLIC ACID SLURRY

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

LETTER

IDS transmittal to the examiner incorporating information regarding the practice of the process where the crude carboxylic acid slurry comprised TPA and IPA.

After consideration of the above information, please sign below and return this page to applicants.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
-----------------------	--------------------	--

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Please type a plus (+) sign in this box →

Substitute for form 1449 <b>TYPE</b> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b> <b>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <small>FEB 26 2004</small> <small>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</small>		Attorney Docket Number <b>80040</b> First Named Inventor <b>Sumner et al.</b> <small>COMPLETE IF KNOWN</small> Application Number <b>10/667,744</b> Filing Date <b>September 22, 2003</b> Group Art Unit <b></b>	
1	of	1	Examiner Name

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		3,584,039		Meyer	06-08-1971
		3,996,271		Yokota et al.	12-07-1976
		4,158,738		Scott et al.	06-19-1979
		4,939,297		Browder et al.	07-03-1990
		U.S. Application No.: 10/645,737		Sheppard et al.	Filed 08-21-2003
		U.S. Application No.: 10/645,734		Sheppard et al.	Filed 08-21-03

#### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		JP	2001-139514	A	Mitsubishi Chemical Ind. Ltd.	05-22-2001	✓
		JP	2001-247511		Mitsubishi Chemical Ind. Ltd.	09-11-2001	✓
		JP	2001-288139		Mitsubishi Chemical Ind. Ltd.	10-16-2001	✓

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.